
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 665 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY GEORGE, BRENNAN, BRIGGS, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN,
DAVIS, DEASY, DePASQUALE, DiGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EVERETT,
FABRIZIO, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GILLEN, GOODMAN, HESS,
HUTCHINSON, JOSEPHS, KIRKLAND, MAHONEY, MANN, McGEEHAN,
MILLER, MIRABITO, MOUL, MURPHY, PAYTON, PRESTON, QUINN,
READSHAW, ROSS, SANTONI, SWANGER, VITALI AND YOUNGBLOOD,
APRIL 4, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, APRIL
4, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 6 through 12, 2012, as "Drinking
2 Water Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, While 80% of the earth's surface is covered with
4 water, only 1% of that water is suitable for human consumption;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Groundwater, the water that soaks into the soil from
7 raindrops and moves downward to fill cracks and other openings
8 in beds of rock and sand, makes up about 90% of the fresh water
9 on earth, not including polar icecaps; and

10 WHEREAS, Individual water wells tapping groundwater resources
11 provide high-quality water to many homeowners and businesses;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Few people consider water supply when choosing a
14 home or when taking a stand on local water supply regulations;
15 and

1 WHEREAS, An estimated 2,200 municipally owned or investor-
2 owned community drinking water systems provide high-quality
3 water to homeowners and businesses; and

4 WHEREAS, Federal and State drinking water standards are
5 upheld by the Department of Environmental Protection for all of
6 those systems; and

7 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission regulates
8 the rates and service of approximately 118 investor-owned water
9 companies in this Commonwealth; and

10 WHEREAS, The mission of the Pennsylvania Public Utility
11 Commission is to ensure that safe and reliable service is
12 provided to ratepayers at a reasonable price; and

13 WHEREAS, PENNVEST (the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment
14 Authority) and the H2O PA program provide low-cost financial
15 assistance for infrastructure improvements to community drinking
16 water systems; and

17 WHEREAS, Ongoing interagency cooperation among the Department
18 of Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Public Utility
19 Commission, PENNVEST and the H2O PA program strengthens drinking
20 water system viability, enhances service, increases economies of
21 scale, regionally maximizes efficient water supply and use and
22 fosters economic development; and

23 WHEREAS, A new State water plan has been developed to
24 coordinate regional, county and local water allocation and use,
25 land development planning and related zoning requirements under
26 Act 220 of 2002; and

27 WHEREAS, The American Water Works Association established
28 "National Drinking Water Week" more than 30 years ago to call
29 attention to water as a precious natural resource; and

30 WHEREAS, Water conservation and water quality maintenance are

1 essential to this Commonwealth and our nation; and

2 WHEREAS, Because the service provided by viable community
3 drinking water systems is generally available instantaneously on
4 a 24-hour basis, many of us take safe and reliable drinking
5 water for granted; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
7 week of May 6 through 12, 2012, as "Drinking Water Week" in
8 Pennsylvania to heighten awareness of drinking water treatment,
9 monitoring, distribution and related costs and urge all
10 residents of this Commonwealth to protect our watersheds,
11 conserve our precious drinking water supply and preserve its
12 superior quality.